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NOTES AND BRIEF ARTICLES

Excellent specimens of *Polyporus amorphus* collected at State College, Pa., by C. R. Orton were sent to the Garden herbarium in a fresh condition by Mr. L. O. Overholts on September 22. They were found growing on dead pine wood and running over pine needles on the ground. The species has no doubt been confused with *P. dichrous* in this country.

A specimen of the rare *Panaeolus epimyces* on *Coprinus comatus* was sent in from Pittsford, New York, on October 25, 1915, by Mr. Fred S. Boughton, and a colored drawing of the plant was obtained. The host was turbinate in general outline and depressed about the stipe of the *Panaeolus,* resembling the enlarged base of an *Amanita* with a conspicuous, thickened volva. Attention is called to Mr. E. T. Harper's article in MYCOLOGIA **5**: 167. 1913, and to the papers he cites on this subject.

Auricularia Auricula (L.) Underw., commonly known as the Jew's ear fungus, has been studied by M. J. Le Goc in the vicinity of Cambridge, England, where it is common on elder and less common on elm. Pure cultures of the fungus grow readily on elder, lime, and elm wood, producing rudimentary fructifications. Penetration, delignification, and almost complete consumption of the wood quickly follow natural infection with the fungus. Inoculations on healthy living twigs of elder were often successful, the hyphae penetrating slowly at first, but finally killing the twigs.

A collection of Thelephoraceae made in Jamaica in 1908 and 1909 by W. A. Murrill and Edna L. Murrill has recently been determined by Dr. E. A. Burt, who is publishing a series of articles on this family in the *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden.* Of the 45 species recognized, representing 12 genera, 8 of them are new and some of the more difficult material in the collction remains to be investigated. *Cyphella porrigens* Burt, Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. **1**: 368. 1914, and *Thelephora magnispora* Burt, Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. **1**: 211. 1914, were described from this collection.

A box of miscellaneous fleshy and woody fungi from Alberta, containing nearly 100 specimens collected last season in the vicinity of Banff by Mr. N. B. Sanson, Curator of the Dominion Government Museum, has recently been sent to the Garden herbarium. Among the species in this collection are: *Armillaria evanescens, Ceriomyces viscidus, Clavaria pistillaris, Coprinus comatus, Coriolus pubescens, Corticium pezizoideum, Cortinellus vaccinus, Hydnum imbricatum, Melanoleuca melaleuca, Pholiota candicans, Rostkovites granulatus, Scutiger Whiteae, Dasyscypha arida, Geopyxis vulcanalis, Helvella crispa, Herpotrichia nigra, Hypocrea Richardsoni, Morchella crassipes,* and *Otidea Auricula.*

It is interesting to observe the gradual addition of new elements in the fungous flora of the Garden as the introduction and development of new shrubs and trees prepares the way for them. Several years ago, a single hymenophore of *Boletus luteus* was found under a young pine tree east of the large range of public conservatories. The past autumn, about the middle of October, a large basketful of very fine specimens was gathered there and many more were found under the pines to the north of the range. When Dr. Murrill collected on the Tacoma Prairies in Washington, he found an interesting series of fungi which had been introduced after the land was occupied by scattered clumps of conifers.

Studies in the Agarics of Denmark, by Jakob E. Lange, are appearing in parts in the *Dansk Botanisk Arkiv.* Part 1 appeared in 1914 in the first volume of this periodical and included a general introduction and a treatment of the genus *Mycena.* Part 2 appeared in 1915 and included *Amanita* (14 species), *Lepiota* (31 species), and *Coprinus* (33 species), with keys and descriptions of all species and two plates of illustrations. The author considers *Amanitopsis* a subgenus of *Amanita* and *Armillaria* a subgenus of *Lepiota,* while *Psathyrella disseminata* and *P. impatiens* are transferred to *Coprinus,* following the opinion of Quélet. Three new species, *Lepiota Cortinarius, Coprinus Hansenii,* and *Coprinus bisporus* are described in this part.

A separate from the report of the New York State Botanist for 1914 giving keys and descriptions of the species of *Marasmius* occurring in the state appeared in December, 1915. This paper was prepared by Professor L. H. Pennington, of Syracuse University, whose work on the species of *Marasmius* occurring in temperate North America appeared in Volume 9, part 4, of *North American Flora,* issued in April, 1915. Dr. Pennington reported 71 species of this genus from temperate North America and his list of species from New York includes 61 species. This means that there are still many undescribed species in other states to be discovered and published. Species of *Marasmius* aid greatly in the formation of humus, and they very rarely cause plant disease. The common fairy ring fungus, *Marasmius caryophylleus,* is a weak parasite of grasses, and this species is practically the only one in the genus which is used for food.

A very interesting and important list of the fungi of North Elba, New York, which contains many additions to Peck's list of North Elba plants published in 1899, appeared in December, 1915, as a separate from the report of the state botanist for 1914. This list was prepared by Professor C. H. Kauffman, of the University of Michigan, after three weeks' collecting in the vicinity of Newman in September, 1914, assisted by Mr. E. B. Mains, who gave special attention to the rusts and ascomycetes. The region covered was small, but the season was unusually good. Two new species are published in this paper, *Boletus rubritubifer* Kauffm., found under spruce trees, and *Cortinarius chrysolitus* Kauffm., found in a sphagnum swamp under balsam trees.

The chestnut canker is reported in at least two localities in Nebraska, having been shipped there with nursery stock. The effect of the canker on chinquapin in Virginia is being observed and studied by Rogers and Gravatt, who find by inoculations that this tree is no less resistant than the chestnut, but, being less subject to insect attacks and other injuries, it enjoys greater freedom from the disease in the field. The chinquapin grows very poorly in the latitude of New York City, but the few plants observed here show a marked resistance to the canker. Among the new plant introductions ready for distribution by the Bureau of Plant Industry, are the Chinese chestnut, *Castanea mollissima,* collected in northern China where the canker has probably existed for centuries; and a hybrid between the American chinquapin and the Japanese chestnut produced at Chico, California, by Dr. Walter Van Fleet. Both of these trees are said to be, as one would expect, highly resistant to the canker.

The annual report of the New York State Botanist for 1914, distributed as Museum Bulletin 179, was issued in December, 1915. Two mycological contributions to this report, by Dr. Pennington and Dr. Kauffman, were issued separately in advance and have been noted above. Descriptions of many new and interesting species of fungi are contributed by Dr. Homer D. House, now State Botanist, among which are the following:

New species by Dearness and House: *Aecidium lini, Cercospora argythamniae, C. namae, Cylindrosporium spigeliae, Laestadia galactina, Macrophoma celtidicola, M. peckiana, Phyllosticta baccharidis, P. maurandiae, P. medeolae, P. oakesiae, P. pachysandrae, P. rhexiae, Placosphaeria celtidis, Ramularia delphinii, Septoria darlingtoniae, S. erythraeae, S. tinctoria,* and *Thyridium ceanothi.*

New names and combinations: *Hebeloma peckii* House, nom. nov., *Melanopsamma waghornei* House, nom. nov., and *Phyllosticta raui* Dearness and House, comb. nov.

While collecting cacti in South America last year, Dr. J. N. Rose picked up a number of fungi which are of special interest as indicating the close connection existing between the flora of tropical North America and that of Brazil. He obtained about 100 numbers; most of them in the mountains about Rio de Janeiro, while a few came from Argentina. Only one desert form was found, a species of *Tylostoma,* represented by a single sporophore. A few of the forest forms are listed below:

Auricularia Auricula, Chlorosplenium aeruginosum, Cladoderris dendritica, Coriolopsis occidentalis, Coriolus haedinus, C. membranaceus, C. pinsitus, C. sector, Daedalea amanitoides, Elfvingia tornata, Elfvingiella fasciata, Favolus variegatus, Fomitella supina, Hapalopilus gilvus, Hexagona daedalea, Lentinus crinitus, L. strigosus, Panaeolus campanulatus, Pogonomyces hydnoides, Psathyrella disseminata, Pycnoporus sanguineus, Resupinatus subbarbatulus, Rigidoporus surinamensis, Schizophyllus alneus, Simblum sphaerocephalum?, Stereum bicolor, and *S. lobatum.*

A NEW FAMILY OF HYMENOMYCETES

The genus *Porothelium,* erected by Fries in 1818 on *Boletus fimbriatus* Pers. and one other species, is out of place among the Polyporaceae because of its spiny hymenium and cannot properly be included in the Hydnaceae because its spines are hollow and bear spores on their inner surface. The new family **Porotheliaceae** is therefore proposed to include hymenomycetes having the hymenium composed of tubular teeth, the context being similar in general to that found in the two related families, the Polyporaceae and the Hydnaceae. The name of the genus on which this family is based was originally written *Porotheleum* (Fries, Obs. Myc. **2**: *272.* 1818), but was soon afterwards changed to the form now in current use.

W. A. MURRILL.

A NEW GENUS OF RESUPINATE POLYPORES

Xanthoporia gen. nov.

Hymenophore annual, epixylous, resupinate; subiculum membranous, dirty-white; tubes long, angular, thin-walled, at first whitish, soon colored by the spores, which are yellow, smooth, ovoid, copious; spines few, at first conic, then elongate.

Type species: *Mucronoporus Andersoni* Ellis & Ev.

Xanthoporia Andersoni (Ellis & Ev.)

Mucronoporus Andersoni Ellis & Ev. Jour. Myc. **6**: 79. 1890.
Polyporus xanthosporus Underw. Proc. Ind. Acad. Sci. **1893**: 61. 1894.

This interesting species was first described from specimens collected by F. W. Anderson under the bark of an oak log at Newfield, New Jersey, in April, 1890. Owing to its peculiar habitat, the plant is rarely found, although the copious yellow spores, which sift through cracks in the bark and cover surrounding objects, had probably been known for some time.

In October, 1893, Underwood collected this species in quantity beneath the bark of dead poplar logs near Terre Haute, Indiana, describing it as *Polyporus xanthosporus*. The following June it was found on an oak trunk near Emma, Missouri; and in December, 1895, C. G. Lloyd collected it on a dead elm or poplar log near Cincinnati, Ohio.

W. A. MURRILL.

FINK'S ASCOMYCETES OF OHIO

A treatment of the ascomycetes of Ohio is begun in Volume 2, No. 1, of the *Ohio Biological Survey*. The work has been undertaken by Professor Bruce Fink and collaborators, of Miami University.

The first part of this work consists of a preliminary discussion of the classification of the ascomycetes. After a rather full discussion of the morphology and the various theories relating to the origin of the ascomycetes, a tentative scheme is proposed for the taxonomic treatment of the ascomycetes of Ohio. While the work is undertaken as a local matter, the principal orders and families of the ascomycetes are considered so that the scheme with some modification will apply equally well in a much broader sense to the ascomycetes of North America.

It is worthy of note that in this scheme Fink has followed the modern trend of thought in disposing of the lichens by distributing them among the true fungi. In many cases they are simply disposed of in large groups, each order or family being placed in its proper place among the orders and families of fungi. Some lichen genera are still further distributed by infiltrating them into existing families of fungi.

The second part of the work consists of a treatment of the Collemaceae of Ohio. Sixteen species of the family are recognized for Ohio, three of which are described as new.

This and similar lists are not only of local value but are also of inestimable value to the student of North American ascomycetes, especially those who are concerned with monographic work on the various groups of ascomycetes for *North American Flora.*

F. J. SEAVER.

TESTIMONIAL TO PROFESSOR CHARLES HORTON PECK

The friends and colleagues of Professor Peck, who recently retired from the position of New York State Botanist after nearly fifty years of service, have expressed a wish to commemorate his important labors in the field of mycology by placing in the new rooms of the New York State Museum an exhibit of reproductions of the edible and poisonous fungi of New York. The preparation of this series has been assigned to Mr. Henri Marchand, whose reproductions from nature, both in structural detail and in coloring are of extraordinary beauty and fidelity, and twelve clusters of fungi have already been completed. It is desirable to finish the work this winter, as preliminary casts have already been prepared of a large number of subjects. Contributions to this very worthy and important undertaking may be sent to Dr. John M. Clarke, Director, State Museum, Education Building, Albany, N. Y.